To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1017 without my signature.

This bill establishes timelines under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) during which an administrative appeal of an action taken by a nonelected decision-making body may be made to the elected body.

This bill is unnecessary because existing law already allows local elected officials to set their own deadlines for administrative appeals under CEQA. Imposing standard deadlines for the governance of administrative appeals without regard for variations in local conditions, caseload impacts and other practical considerations unnecessarily limits the discretion of local governments.

For these reasons, I cannot support this measure.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger